



## Climate Change Working Group

### *Meeting Minutes*

**Date:** 06/09/11

**Start Time:** 10:05 a.m.

**End Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Meeting Method:** Conference call with presentation sharing (Go-To-Meeting)

**Participation:** Eric Kingma (Chair); Fiona Langenberger, Scott Kiefer, Liz Moore, Paul Wong, Jonathan Martinez, Micki Ream, Joe Paulin, Jean Souza

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#### **I. Introductions**

- The Working Group (WG) welcomes its new members. Scott Kiefer has worked in marine conservation for over 15 years. He now works for the University of Hawaii with a focus on how to incorporate indigenous environmental knowledge into climate change and other environmental policies. Another new member, a member from Maui based Kuleana Kuikahi was not able to join the call.

#### **II. Climate Smart Sanctuaries**

- Liz Moore, from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) joined the call to present on the Climate-Smart Sanctuaries process.
- Liz is the lead for ONMS International Programs and Climate Change program.
- NOAA's Climate Change program (within the Office Oceanic & Atmospheric Research) is currently on hold
- There is a Climate Subcommittee for sanctuaries, including regional representatives & functional representatives from HQ who meet monthly to exchange experiences with climate change initiatives.
- The main goal of Climate-Smart Sanctuaries is to provide a guideline on how to implement climate change initiatives on a local level. All sanctuaries are different, hence the focus of Climate-Smart Sanctuaries varies from sanctuary to sanctuary – Climate-Smart is a framework that can be adapted to sanctuary's needs, budget, staff capacity, etc... The approach needs to be realistic and feasible.
- The Climate-Smart process is very similar to a management plan review process, but resulting in a certification if certain criteria are met.
- Climate-Smart is in its initial phase. The Gulf of the Farallones NMS is the most advanced site so far that has finished its Climate Impact Report and is currently developing action plans.
- There are two different approaches how to implement the Climate Smart Sanctuaries:
  - Use the Climate-Smart framework as a set of guidance and form it into an action plan for the management plan review
  - Utilize certain components of Climate-Smart and implement them into action plans as part of the management plan review action plans
- Fagatale Bay NMS is implementing Climate-Smart as part of their current management plan review and drafted its climate impact report. Climate-Smart is one strategy of their Climate Change action plan.



## Climate Change Working Group

### *Meeting Minutes*

- Olympic Coast and Flower Garden Banks NMS have not started, but plan to implement Climate-Smart as part of their draft management plan.
- Florida Keys NMS might start the process separate from its management plan review.
- No site has finished its certification yet.
- Planning Process (refers to Climate-Smart Sanctuaries document, please see document for more details)
  1. Based on the Condition Report a Climate Change Site Scenario needs to be created (how would the sanctuary look like in 50 years?) – Since the HIHWNMS condition report focused on humpback whales only (not ecosystem-based), sanctuary should utilize whatever is available and add additional information
  2. Site should implement standards to green site
  3. Climate Change Site Scenario undergoes peer & public review
  4. Staff, partners etc. need to undergo climate change training
  5. Engage SAC, stakeholders & partner in the Climate-Smart process
  6. Formulate Climate Change Action Plan (same structure as other MPR action plans, including strategies, goals etc...)
  7. Complete any other actions to meet or make progress towards the necessary standards
  8. Prepare Climate Smart Sanctuary Documentation report
- Certification process includes review team, documentation, executive team to determine if site meets Climate-Smart standards
- Attachment 2 of the document focuses on the local level – What can the sanctuary do in Hawaii? Reduce stressors, increase ocean literacy, reduce sanctuary's carbon footprint
- What are the working groups tasks then? How to proceed depends on resources, timing, etc. How can HIHW adopt Climate Smart into its management plan review?
- Working group recommendations won't be as detailed as action plan. The recommendations should specifically address high level issues what the sanctuary should be involved in and identify what the stressors might be here in Hawaii
- Would be interesting to take a look at Fagatale Bays NMS action plan, in particular because Fagatale Bay might adjust its boundaries – how is this potential expansion reflected in Climate Change action plan?

### **III. Review of Technical Advisory Information**

- Dr. Polovina provided answers to questions that were raised by working group. Full document with answers is available on the google docs site.
- Paul and Jon will post additional papers that are relevant for the working group on the google docs site.
- Awaiting feedback from Kehau about impact of sea level rise & coastal hazards on fishponds
- Awaiting feedback from Greta Abbey about ocean acidification and coral reefs

### **IV. Review of Google Docs site**

- If working group members have trouble accessing the Google docs site, please contact Micki at [Micki.Ream@noaa.gov](mailto:Micki.Ream@noaa.gov)
- Please check out the different sections on the Google docs site – it is a great repository to save and share documents
- Different sections include: Homepage, Documents, Meeting Minutes & Agenda, Sanctuary Resources



## Climate Change Working Group

### *Meeting Minutes*

- This repository is only accessible to working group members

#### **V. New Members**

- The group agreed to accept Bill Friedl's request to participate in the Climate Change working group. Bill is a former member and chair of the sanctuary advisory council.
- Paul will bring Bill up to speed what the WG has discussed so far

#### **VI. Future Meeting**

- The next meeting will take place on July 8, 2011 at 10 am. Ideally in person. In the meantime, working group members will communicate via email
- No August meeting date has been identified yet

#### **VIII. Action Items**

- Before July 8, Eric, Marnie & Paul will develop a list of issues and a list of recommendations. The lists will be shared with the group prior to the July 8 meeting so that the lists can be narrowed down and finalized at the July 8 meeting.
- Provide WG with letter about ocean acidification that the advisory council came up with a few years ago (will be posted on Google docs site)
- Jon will check if there are any more lab studies from HIMB that would be helpful to the group

**Next meeting:** 07/08/11 at 10:00AM